

Introduced by Senator Romero

February 24, 2006

An act to add Section 1756.5 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to the Division of Juvenile Justice.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1589, as introduced, Romero. Division of Juvenile Justice: specialized programming.

The Division of Juvenile Justice is vested with all the powers, functions, duties, responsibilities, obligations, liabilities, and jurisdiction of the former Youth Authority. The Division of Juvenile Justice consists of the Division of Juvenile Facilities, the Division of Juvenile Programs, and the Division of Juvenile Parole Operations under the Chief Deputy of Juvenile Justice, each headed by a chief who is appointed by the Governor and subject to Senate confirmation.

This bill would require the Division of Juvenile Justice to explore options to provide specialized programming outside of division facilities for high risk or high need juvenile offenders, taking into account availability and specified criterion. On or before January 1, 2008, the bill would require the division to transfer all female offenders out of division facilities.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 1756.5 is added to the Welfare and
- 2 Institutions Code, to read:
- 3 1756.5. (a) The Division of Juvenile Justice shall explore
- 4 options to provide specialized programming outside of division

1 facilities for high risk or high need offenders, if programming is
2 available. Specialized programs for these offenders shall take
3 into account commitment offenses, delinquency history, age,
4 gender, medical and mental health condition, risk levels, and any
5 other commitment criteria.

6 (b) The Division of Juvenile Justice may also consider
7 changes with respect to eligibility, age, jurisdiction, or length of
8 confinement in order to ensure quality programming within
9 division facilities.

10 (c) Given the small number of female offenders and their
11 specialized needs, the Division of Juvenile Justice shall explore
12 options to provide programming for female offenders outside of
13 division facilities. On or before January 1, 2008, the division
14 shall transfer all female offenders out of division facilities.